

REMARKS

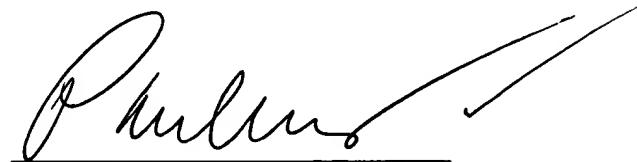
This amendment is being filed in connection with a Request for Continued Examination.

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, 19, and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) in view of Lutz ('486) and Sato. Further, claims 3, 11, and 19 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) in view of Lutz ('486) and Sato in view of Lutz ('498).

Applicant has submitted a Statement of Common Ownership to negate the Lutz '486 reference as a proper 35 USC 103 reference.

Applicant has also added new claims 27-34.

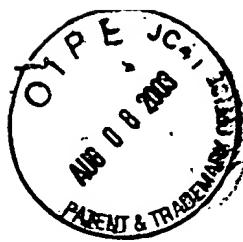
In view of the foregoing Amendment, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, 19, 20, and 27-34 are in condition for allowance. Action to that end is hereby solicited.



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AUG - 6 2003



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 8998

Application of:

Joanne Walter

Art Unit: 3629

Serial No.: 09/478,777

Examiner: I. Borissov

Filed: January 6, 2000

For: **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR OPERATING A SELF-SERVICE
CHECKOUT TERMINAL HAVING A VOICE GENERATING DEVICE
ASSOCIATED THEREWITH**

STATEMENT OF COMMON OWNERSHIP

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

(37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313.

8-6-03
Date

Karen A. Church
Karen A. Church

Sir:

This statement is being filed in accordance with the requirements of MPEP 706.02(1)(2).

The present application was rejected under 35 USC 103 in view of Lutz, Patent No. 6,155,486 ('486).

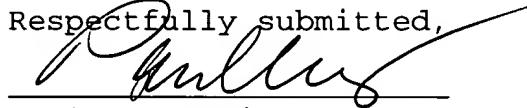
The present application was filed on Jan 6, 2000, which is later than the effective date of the American Inventor's

Protection Act of November 29, 1999, and so is eligible to receive the benefits of that Act.

The Lutz '486 patent was filed less than a year before the filing date of the present application, on February 8, 1999, and so qualifies as potential 35 USC 103 prior art based on 35 USC 102(e).

The assignment records of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 9755, Frames 040-42 identify NCR Corporation as the assignee of the ('486) patent. The assignment records also identify NCR Corporation as the assignee of the present invention at Reel 010523, Frames 904-06. Therefore, The Lutz '486 patent was wholly owned by the Assignee of the present invention at the time the present invention was made.

Respectfully submitted,



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